Pre K-Kindergarten Reading At Home Flyer

Dear Parents,

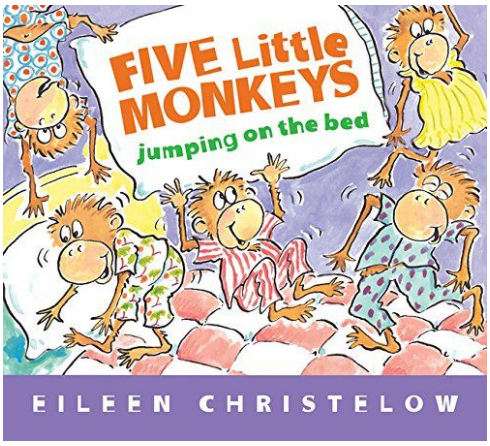
It is an honor to partner with you to make sure every Dogwood Dragon has an opportunity to read daily and progress in reading. This short guide was created to help you understand what reading looks like in PreK-Kindergarten and to provide strategies for creating reading routines at home.

Contents

- What do Pre K to kindergarten grade level books look like?
- What if my child is not reading at these levels?
- What you can do at home to support your child in reading?

Prior to your child reading to you, your child needs to have many, many experiences with books. Books they have read to them and discussed as well as time to explore them independently. This includes: alphabet books, number books, books with predictable stories, poems and nonfiction texts that you can engage in together.

Below are a few examples.



Texts have bright, inviting pictures.

Contain playful language.

Often have engaging items such as flaps, pop ups or repetitive lines to participate.

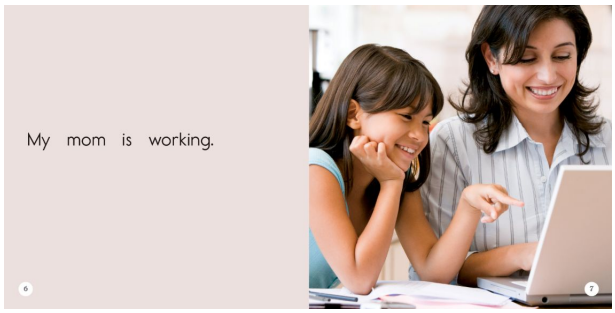
- Children develop a love of reading by having many stories read to them.
- Children can talk about something from the story.
- Children can help turn the pages.

This is an excerpt from a text titled Mom. This is the benchmark for the beginning of kindergarten - Level 1/A.

Only a few words on each page.

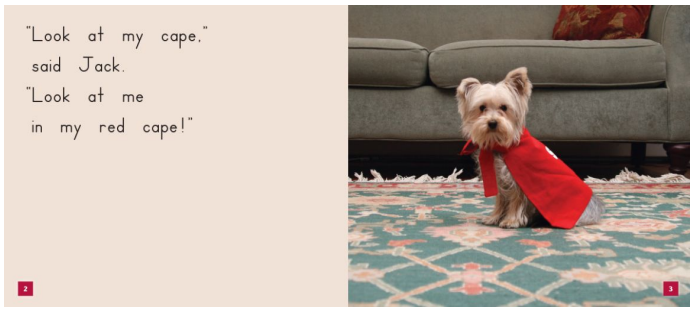
Has a repeating pattern.

Pictures support the words.



- Children point to each word as they read.
- They use the pattern and pictures to read.
- If your child needs help, tell them the words. Then have your child point to and read the words.

This is an excerpt from Super Dog by Michele Dufresne. This is the benchmark for the end of kindergarten/beginning of first grade- Level 4/C.



Many sight words and words that can be decoded by sound.

More lines on each page.

Pictures help the reader.

Students should be able to remember and talk about the story.

What if my child is reading below this level?

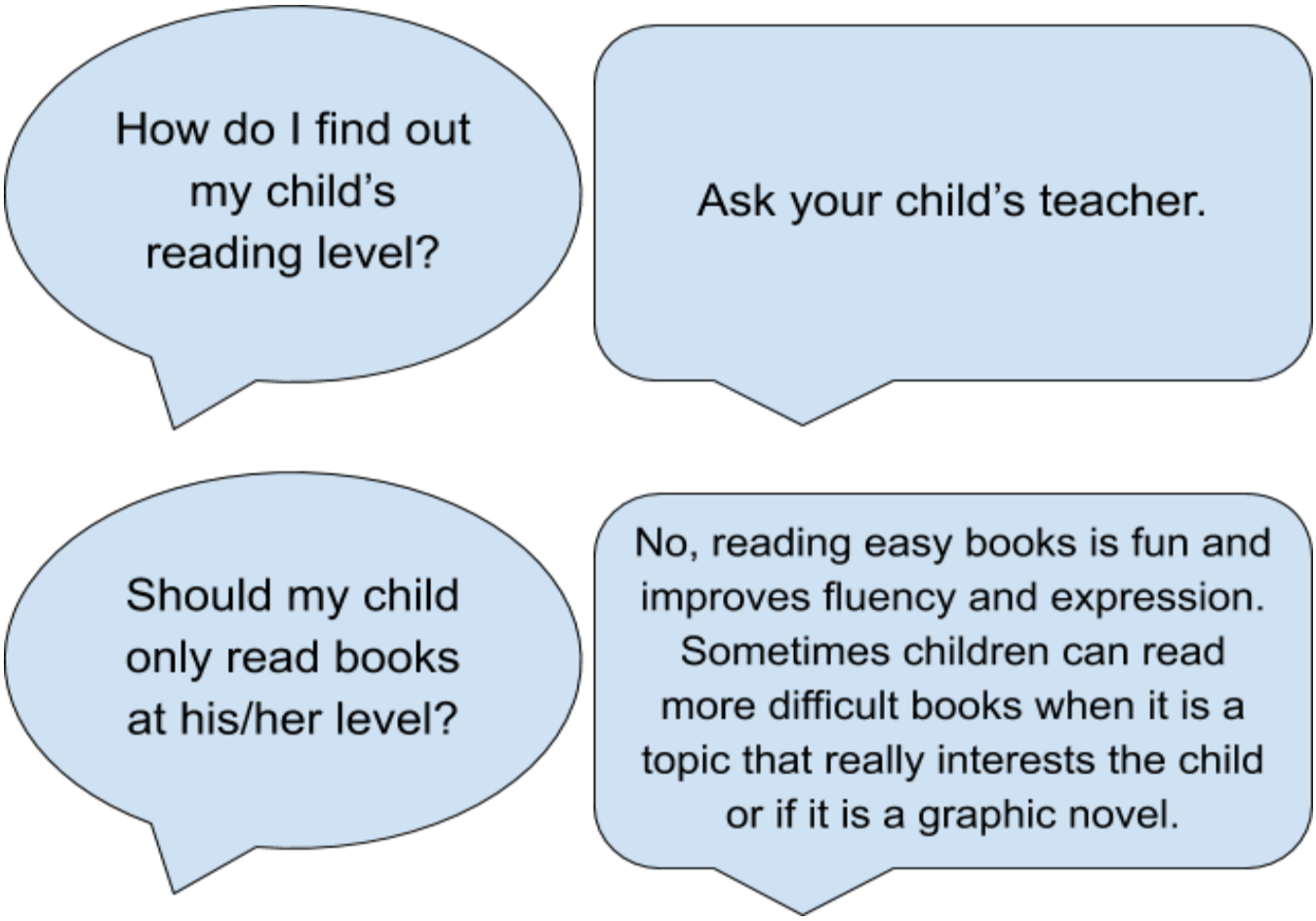
First, do not stress or make your child feel bad if they are not reading on grade level. This often leads to a child shutting down and avoiding reading.

So what can you do at home?
- Encourage a love of reading by finding books your child can enjoy on his or her own and that you can enjoy together.
- Immerse your child in literacy by reading to them and with them, and by listening to them read. Remember, even if they aren't reading on grade level yet, they will eventually be able to, and may even surpass it.

What if my child is already reading this level?

If your child is reading above this level, encourage your child to continue reading a variety of books of including fiction and nonfiction.

So what can you do at home?
- Allow your child to choose books they enjoy and don't worry if they seem too easy.
- Keep an eye on the books your child is reading to make sure that the themes are appropriate for your child's age.
- Your child may draw and write about the books he or she has read.



At Home –Establish a Reading Routine

- Make reading a fun, enjoyable part of every day!
- Provide a quiet place to read independently for 10-20 minutes. It's OK to read books online. See the Dogwood website for good online options and other book suggestions.
- Read to your child daily.

• Teach names of the letters of the alphabet
(Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff, Gg. . .)
-start with the letters in your child's name
• Teach the sound of each alphabet letter
(a-apple, b-boy, d-daddy, m-mommy. . .)
• Help memorize sight words (words that appear frequently in books like the, is, my, come).
-find the words in books
-practice writing sight words
-practice reading sight words quickly
• Talk about what they are reading.

- Who are the characters? Do they change or learn something?
- What is the setting?
- What was the problem? How was it solved?
- Did you have a connection?
- What happened in the story (beginning, middle and end)?
- What was your favorite part and why?
- What did you learn from this book?

• When your child makes an error, use these prompts:

Levels A-C

"Did you make it match?" (finger pointing to each word when read)
"Check the picture and make the first sound."
"Go back and reread, what makes sense and looks right?"

Levels D-I

"Can you say the sounds?"
"Do you see a part you know?"
"You made a mistake on that page. Find it and fix it."
"Go back and reread, what makes sense and looks right."
"What else can you try?"

*Once your child makes several attempts and is unsuccessful, tell your child the word and read on. The experience should be fun and enjoyable!